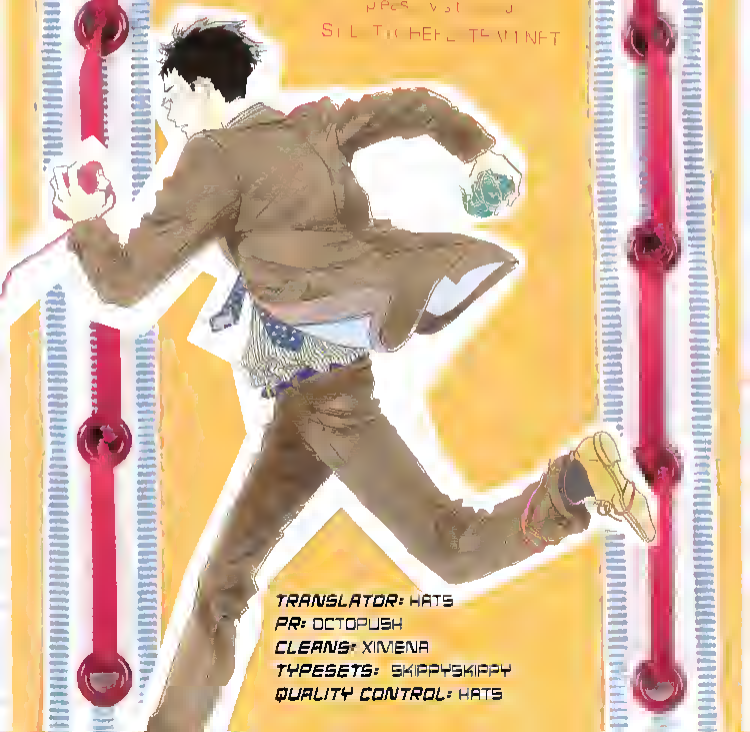
SEKINE'S LOVE

VOLUME 5, CH.31



TRANSLATOR: HATS
PR: OCTOPUSH
CLEANS: XIMENA
TYPESETS: SKIPPYSKIPPY
QUALITY CONTROL: HATS

CH.31
YOUR NAME IS...

SWOP
PLOP.

It's my fault for coming with you
I'm sorry...
That isn't...
No, don't...
...
...apologize like that...
I'm the one at fault for handling things this way...
But...
I...
can't let you leave like this...

Things...
Please, just this once...
Let yourself get caught in my trap
...may turn out bad if I were to push her off right away...
Now then
I'm...
How to make her stop...

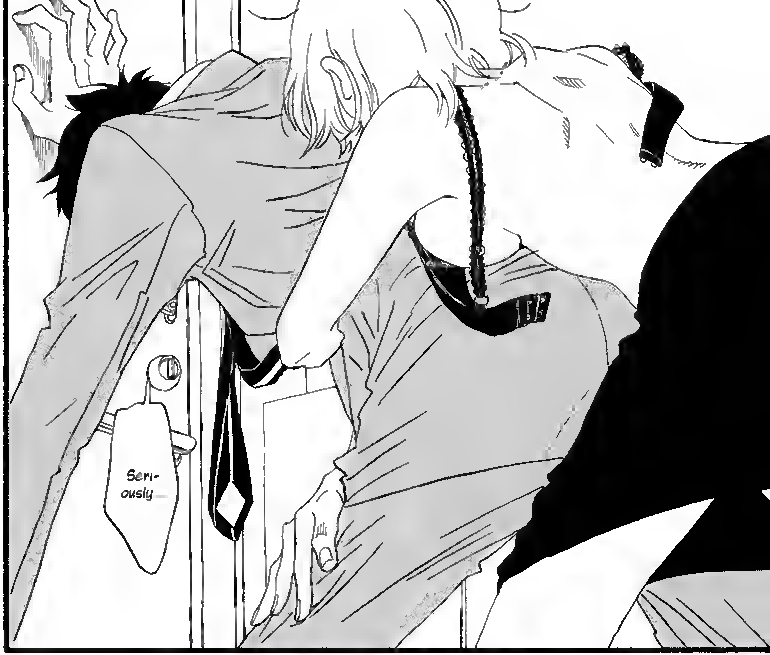
...!
...desperate too
If I let this moment slip away, then, when the next one comes, I wouldn't be surprised if he did the same
Neither my attitude
...
Even when I'm seducing you?
As of now,
you're a good work partner
nor my convictions have changed

I'm the last person who should be saying this, but...
...messing around without thinking of the consequences, but
SLIP
It's your choice if you want to go on
For me, it's already...out of the question
...
I knew it

I envy her
What I'm probably...
...feeling for this woman right now is...
SYMPATHY
I
So you really do have feelings for someone else?
I made such a fool of myself
It's not your fault
The one to blame is
I told you not to apologize
For goodness' sake!

Even if I risk all my hopes and dreams to approach someone, that won't necessarily sway the other person's heart.
...
But, I...
?!
at this time...
If we were to switch roles, it becomes crystal clear
It's absolutely impossible for me to do what she's doing.
won't mind being used as a substitute.
SNAP
SNAP
HUUUUUUUHH?!

Hey!
Shit.
Isn't this crossing into harassment territory?
Please let me go
I was hoping to end things peacefully!
Uh
Please
...
Quit groping me all over!
Crazy bitch!
Stop


Seri-
ously...

If she wasn't doing PR work for my client, I...
SQUEEZE
..would have knocked her down long ago.
You can't
So fucking annoooying!
Please stop...

Of whom - the handicraft store girl?
...take me, not even...
...as a substitute?
...
BOOM!
Crap.
Oh, crap. Oh, crap. Oh, crap.
No...

I can't!
Oh...?
Don't
"OH" me

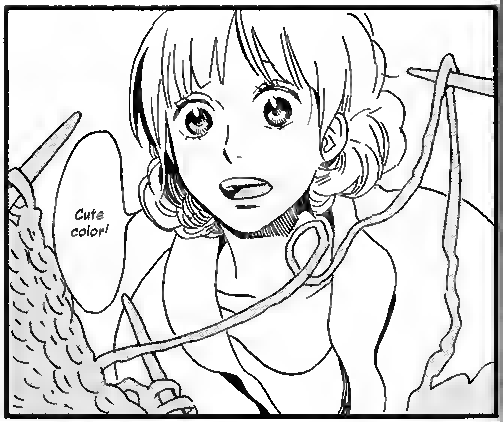
Just think of my hand as her hand
Don't say stuff like that!
Just let it out once
Gimme a break...
Shh! There, there
You're sick
Don't make it so difficult
Don't do things to get a reaction outta me!
WHAT THE HELL?!
WHAT THE HELL?!
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?!
ARRRRGHHHH!
It's all because I'm hanging around with this half-naked woman!
...

But, let's see
Malicious
...
Just kidding
If I were to rip apart my own clothes
and call the cops, what do you think would happen?
What if I said it wasn't?
...
Is that also a joke?

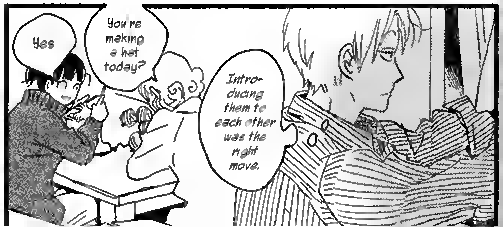
I'm serious!
I'll make a scene! Kick and scream!
SCREECH
You won't call the police.
You wouldn't do that
YANK!
I'll act like a victim, and...
...have the cops after you
PLOP.
...
KTUNK

FLUTTER...
Don't blame me if you catch a cold
I...
...don't want to lose...
...a valuable business partner...
And I don't want you...
...to lose your career over this one, measly thing.

I'll take what you did today as playing with fire...
What it comes down to is, do you really want to spoil everything for something so insignificant?
I'm not
Are you...
...implying that it's only lust?
...say the same thing to you about
...someone else?
Sekine-san, could I...
...
There is, isn't there?


Cute color!

Kozue-chan, you have excellent understanding of the color scheme!
Seriously?
I knew it
They're all amazing!

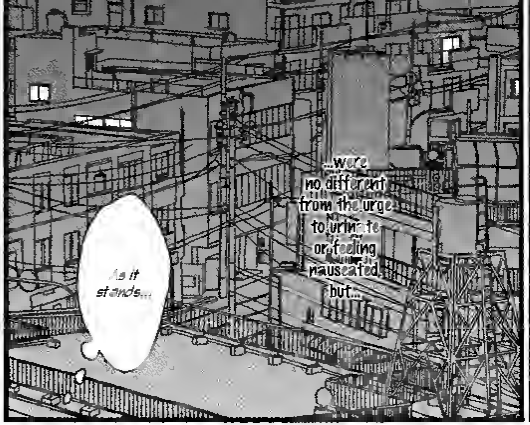

Yes
You're making a hat today?
Introducing them to each other was the right move.

So what if there is?

SAY WHAT?!
Whisper
I want to surprise him
Riku-nii has been taking good care of me this whole time
Whisper
WAY too psyche-delic.
Guh-huh?!
What on earth made her combine those colors?!
Psst.
Actually, I wanted to give this to him as a gift
Psst.
Oh, that's nice!
I bet it's for that good-For-nothing pumpkin boyfriend of hers.
We hardly ever see you smiling like that
HUH?!
Why would I be
I'm not some mascot at a theme park, okay?!
I won't be able to wear that thing!
What's wrong, Doujima-san?

"Please forget all about this."
...
"I know I did many terrible things to hold you back,
and I was acting extremely selfish, but...
...I'll make sure to...
...move on as well..."
"I'm sure we can turn...
...this project into a success."

When I snapped back to reality,
I realized I hadn't slept with women in a while.
It's chilly out....
Ah...
Choo!
Fwoo!
The only thing I've been doing is knitting and magic tricks.
What the hell?!
Biased information
If you're gonna live on your own, then it's good to have a girl helping you jack off or having sex with you.
...
Konno, where's your hanky?
That's why my brother said...
This whole time...

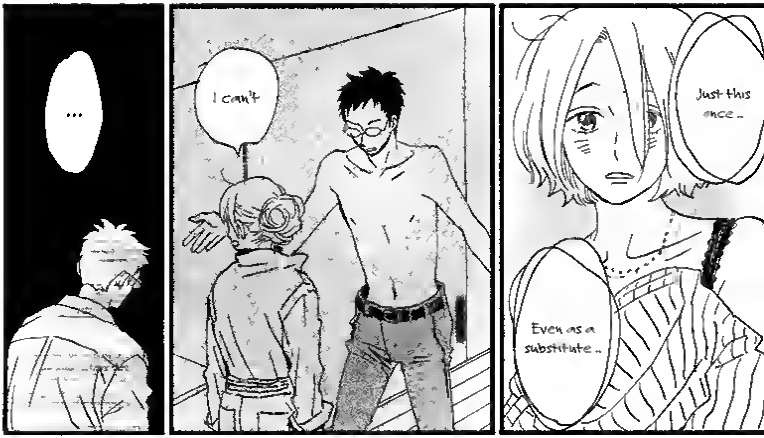

...were no different from the urge to urinate or feeling nauseated, but...
Is it stands...
I believed that things of that nature

My memory is too hazy.
How did that go anyway?
The grand-daughter
ZAP!
But...
THMP!
THMP!
...
THMP!
THMP!
THMP!
DLNG

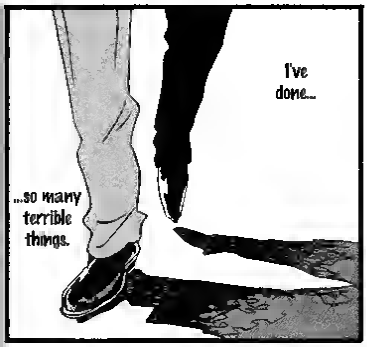
What if it went so far as to kill me the moment we touch?
...causes tremors in my fingertips, and...
...gives my heart so much pain.
How can anyone stay normal with someone like that around?
THMP!
THMP!
THMP!
THMP!
...thinking of her briefly...
SHES
SHES
THMP!
THMP!
Just...

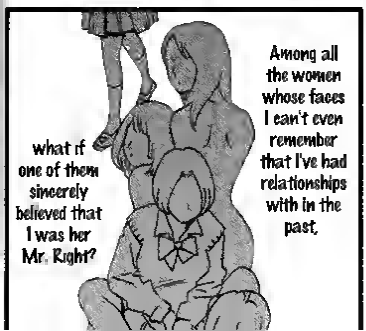
...

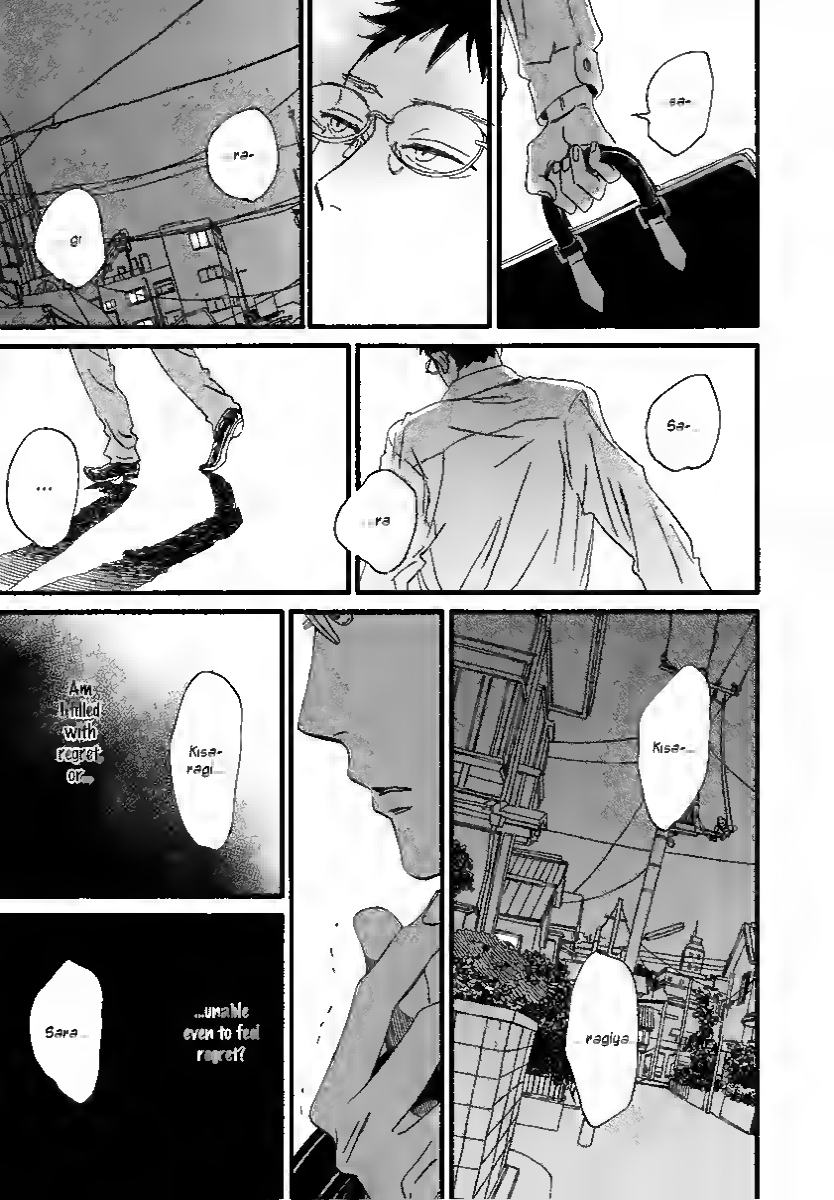
...have someone in mind?
Do you...
Even if I did, I would...
...neeeever tell you!


...
I can't
Just this once...
Even as a substitute...

...haven't been paying attention at all.
I really..
...
Ki-...


I've done...
...so many terrible things.


Among all the women whose faces I can't even remember that I've had relationships with in the past,
what if one of them sincerely believed that I was her Mr. Right?


...ra-
gi
sa-
...
Sa-
...ra
Am I filled with regret, or...
Kisa-ragi...
Sara...
...unable even to feel regret?
Kisa-...
ragiya...

...
Sara
Kisaragi
Sara.

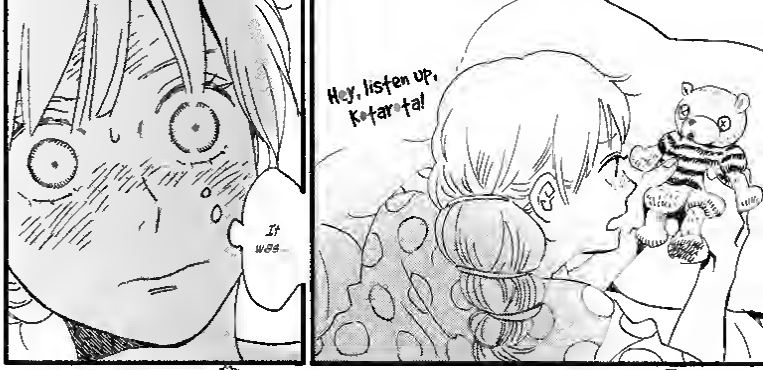
Even if it's only once...
...I want to say her name out loud, and...
...watch her figure turning around to look.

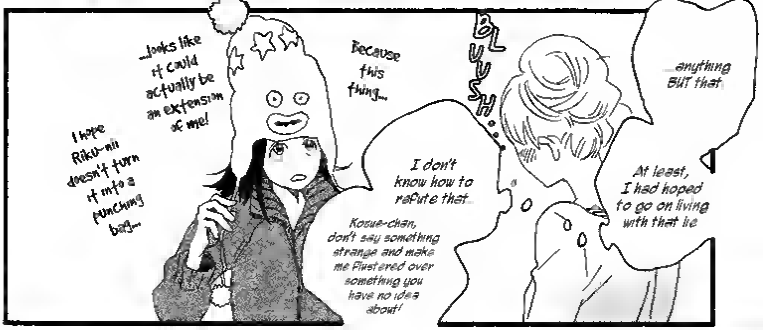
To be more precise, we want you at the Osaka branch
And ideally, you would come back to us after gaining several years of experience
In handling two businesses side-by-side
Well, you could call it our company's "Road to Promotion"
Did you...
...say Kyoto?
I'm not asking you to give me an answer right away
You just finalized that project after all.
Until we get new personnel,
I'll wait for your answer, which I intend to take to the higher-ups
The other candidates are all married men, so you're a strong contender
Think it over
Yes

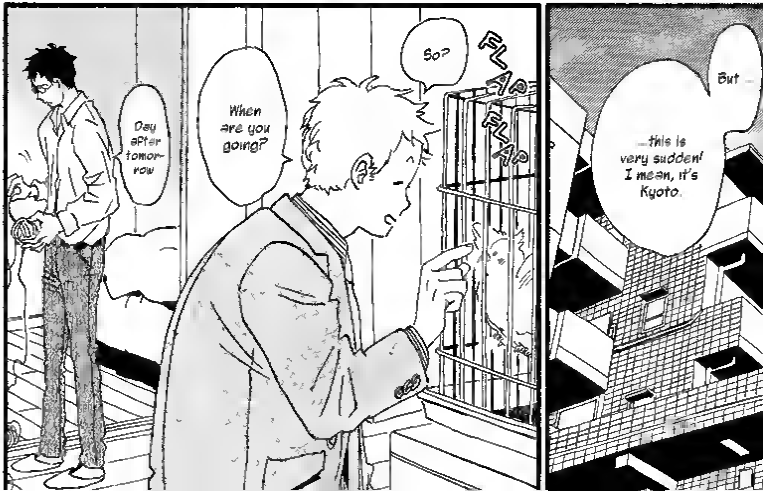
Duh...
KONNO
Ahhh!
I need a small favor
Uh...
Konno?

Hahahaha!
Hooray, it's complete! Hahahaha!
Hahaheheh... Cross my heart, I think it's cute, but when I imagine the look on his face before he wears it...
Well
Ugh!
Why are you laughing so hard?
Pfft hah!
Tee hee hee hee!
I know, I know.
I meant no harm...
I admit... It does look tacky, doesn't it?
...
Pppf!
...
...
Ppp-hah!
Tchu
...
He sure is!
...
But he's the type who's willing to play along...

Hand-knit stuff...
...reminds me of Goku's thing-a-ma-jig in Journey to the West
?
But
Hehe heh
Oh
Wow
When I make tiny things out of yarn,
it feels a little like I'm making an extension of myself
The thing where he blows on a strand of hair and converts it into a clone
Was it Shingaishin?
I always thought...
you held onto it like it was so precious because it was a substitute for that friend whenever you didn't get to see him
Oh, yeah...
?
That stuffed animal...
...your friend crocheted for you that you're always carrying around


It was...
Hey, listen up, Kotaro-ta!


...anything BUT that.
BL USH...
At least, I had hoped to go on living with that lie
Because this thing...
...looks like it could actually be an extension of me!
I don't know how to refute that...
I hope Riku-nii doesn't turn it into a punching bag...
Kosue-chan, don't say something strange and make me flustered over something you have no idea about!


Day after tomorrow
When are you going?
So?
FLAP FLAP
But...
...this is very sudden! I mean, it's Kyoto.